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SAMUEL STUBBS ACCOUNT OF
THE WAR OF 1812

Heartman's Historical Series No. 5

A COMPENDIOUS ACCOUNT
OF THE
LATE WAR
TO WHICH IS ADDED
THE CURIOUS ADVENTURES OF
Corporal SAMUEL STUBBS
(A Kentuckian of 65 Years of Age)

BOSTON—Printed by William Walter, 1817

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A
COMPENDIOUS ACCOUNT
OF THE
MOST IMPORTANT BATTLES
OF THE
LATE WAR,
TO WHICH IS ADDED,
THE CURIOUS ADVENTURES OF
Corporal SAMUEL STUBBS,

[A Kentuckian of 65 years of age.]

Who, in the late WAR, patriotically volunteered his
services and nobly distinguished himself in the
battles of QUEENSTOWN—FRENCH
TOWN—LITTLE YORK, CHIPPE-
WA—NEW-ORLEANS, &c.

*When angry nations rush to arms,
And dare Columbia's peace molest ;
While discord sounds her dire alarms,
And fills with rage each hostile breast ;
The gallant STUBBS, at honour's call
Quits the Pough to meet his foes ;
And fix'd to conquer or to fall,
His breast with martial ardor glows.*

BOSTON—Printed by WILLIAM WALTER.
1817.

COMPENDIOUS ACCOUNT, &c.

THE first battle which we shall herein record (which was the commencement of hostilities) was fought on the 25th of July, 1812, when a scouting party, of one hundred men, from Gen. HULL's army, were attacked by about the same number of Indians, near the river Canau, and after skirmishing two or three hours, returned to the main body, having lost 4 men killed and 2 wounded. It was ascertained by deserters, that the Indians lost 10 or 12 killed, and many more wounded. Gen. Hull is now at Sandwich, having entered *Upper Canada* at the head of the north western army, without opposition. The American flag is proudly waving in a province of the British dominions. But we shall soon learn the triumph was short. The General, and all his army, soon after surrendered to a force which they expected to conquer, and submitted to the humble condition of prisoners of war.

August 8th, Col. Miller was detached to proceed to the River Razin, with the 4th regiment of United States troops, and detachments from the Ohio and Michigan volunteers, the whole force consisting of six hundred foot and forty cavalry. They were met

about three miles from Brownstown, and opposed by a body of British troops, about 300, and a large number of Indians. A severe battle ensued. The British troops and Indians were obliged to give way, and retreated with great precipitation. The loss on the American side was 4 officers wounded; 75 non-commissioned officers and privates killed and wounded. Seven British and 40 Indians were left on the field.

August 16th, 1812, General Hull surrendered Detroit, and all under his command, to Major General Brock, commanding his Britannick Majesty's forces in Upper Canada. General Hull, in his official letter, states, that he has not more than 800 effective men, a force by no means sufficient to meet the enemy in the field; and as the fort was open to shells and shot from the batteries, it was not a place of safety for the garrison, the sick, the women and aged people from the neighborhood, who had crowded into it. For these and many other reasons stated in the official letter, General Hull found himself under the imperious necessity to surrender, on such terms as he was able to make: And thus ended the first attempt to take the province of Upper Canada; a thing which no doubt General Hull, and many others, who were warm advocates for the late war, supposed might be easily done. [Here, in course, we should record the battle of Queenstown, for the particulars of which we would refer the reader to Corporal STUBBS' account thereof, subjoined to this work.]

In November, 1812, a detachment from General Hopkins' army under Col. Russell, with 400 men, succeeded in surprising one of the Pioria towns. It was defended by about 150 warriors, who left 25 killed, and the survivors fled to a neighboring swamp.

On the 17th November, an expedition under Col. Campbell surprised and destroyed one of the Massasinowa towns, driving the Savages across the river of that name, having killed seven and made 27 prisoners, with the loss of but 2 killed. On the next day, they were attacked by a strong reinforcement of Savages, and the action lasted with unabated fury, for one hour; at length, however, they were defeated with the loss of 41 killed, and many wounded.

After the defeat of Col. Van Rensselaer at Queens-town, General Alexander Smyth, confident of better success, planned an expedition to invade Canada, by crossing over, and landing near Fort Erie. On the 29th December, the troops under his command, were preparing to cross the Niagara; a part of which, under Col. Winder, were ordered to attack two small redoubts of the enemy, in which they succeeded, spiking the guns, and destroying their works. Having accomplished this, they received orders from the General to return. In a skirmish with the enemy, 6 men were killed and 19 wounded. The project was then abandoned, as the force, under General Smyth, was not deemed sufficient to warrant a general engagement.

February 21, 1812, Capt. Forsyth, who was stationed at Odgensburg with a small force, was attacked by a strong detachment from the enemy and obliged to retreat, having 20 killed and wounded.

On the 5th of May, General Clay, who was attached to the army under the command of General Harrison, was ordered, with a detachment of 800 men, to attack the enemy's batteries at Fort Meigs, and spike their cannon. This was accomplished, four batteries were taken and the enemy driven away. But confiding too much in their success, they suffered themselves to be drawn into the neighboring woods, where the British troops, with a great body of Indians, were prepared to attack them; a severe conflict took place; of the whole number engaged, only 150 effected their escape. On the same day an attack was made by Gen. Miller, with 350 men, on the enemy's batteries on the other side of the river, in which they were successful, driving them from their works, and taking a number of prisoners.

On the 27th May, a portion of the army under Gen. Dearborn commanded by Gen. Lewis, landed under cover of Com. Chauncy's flotilla, to attack Fort George, where they were opposed with great spirit: the intrepidity of the Americans, however, soon compelled the enemy to give ground, and they retreated in all directions. But the excessive fatigue of the American troops prevented a further pursuit; they returned and took quiet possession of the fort. The

American loss was 17 killed and 45 wounded: that of the enemy was 90 killed, 150 wounded and 100 prisoners.

On the 29th May, a British detachment of 800 men under Col. Baynes, effected a landing at Sacket's Harbour. The American forces at this place were but 600, and commanded by Gen. Brown, who attacked the enemy with his usual firmness. The conflict was warm and desperate, and continued unabated for near two hours, but terminated in the retreat of the enemy to their fleet. The loss on both sides was very severe; that of the British was estimated at 200. The Americans lost about 150, including Cols. Mills and Backus.

June 6, 1813. The troops commanded by Brig. Gen. Chandler, who were stationed near 40 mile creek, were attacked by a large number of British and Indians under the command of Brig. General Vincent, and although the American loss was small and the enemy completely routed and driven from the field, both Brig. Gens. Chandler and Winder were made prisoners, with 200 men. They had proceeded to ascertain the situation of a company of artillery, when the attack commenced, and were surprised and taken. The loss of the enemy in this action, was estimated at 90 in killed and wounded; Col. Clark of the 49th British regiment, with 60 men were made prisoners.

On the 23rd June, Lieut. Col Boerstler with 570

men were ordered to march from Fort George to a place called Beaver Dams, about eight miles from Queenstown, to disperse a body of the enemy who had collected there for the purpose of procuring provisions. When within a short distance of the enemy, they were attacked from an ambuscade, but soon drove the enemy to the woods; then retired a short distance, sending an express for a reinforcement, with an intention of renewing the attack. Col. Chrystie was immediately dispatched with 300 men; but on his arriving at Queenstown, he received authentick information, that Colonel Boerstler, with the troops under his command, had surrendered, after two hours fighting.

On the 11th July, about 250 British troops commanded by Cols. Bishop and Warren, crossed to the American side, and landed at Black Rock. They had marched above the Navy Yard before they were discovered, and the militia at that place were either taken or dispersed. The British had now quiet possession, and proceeded to burn the barracks, and spike the guns. The neighboring militia, and a number of friendly Indians, were, however, soon collected, and attacked them; when they precipitately retreated to their boats, leaving 8 killed and 5 wounded. The American loss, was 3 killed and 5 wounded.

August 2d, 1813. An attack was made by the British and Indians, supposed to amount to about 800 men, under Major Proctor, on the fort at Lower San-

dusky, then under the command of Major Croghan. The action was severe, but terminated in the defeat of the British, who lost 27 killed and about 30 prisoners.

September 14th. An American fort on the Tombigbee River was attacked by 700 Creek Indians. The action was fierce and bloody—of about 300 persons who defended the fort, nearly 130 were killed, or wounded. The Indian loss was estimated at 200.

On the 23d September, Gen. Harrison writes that the army, under his command, had landed, and taken possession of Malden without opposition—that the British forces, under Gen. Proctor had retreated to Sandwich, having previously burnt the fort, navy yard, barracks and public store houses.

On the 28th, the same army took possession of Detroit, which also had been evacuated, and the public property destroyed. A few days after, Gen. Harrison's army arrived at Sandwich, and finding that the enemy had proceeded on, and taken post at Daltons, fifty-six miles from Detroit, arrangements were made to follow. On the 5th October the enemy were discovered, and the battle commenced. The firmness and impetuosity of the Americans, soon decided that victory was theirs: The enemy fled in confusion, and were closely pursued. Gen. Proctor with a few dragoons effected their escape—601 British regulars, including 25 officers, were taken, with 12 killed and 22

wounded. The Americans lost 7 killed and 22 wounded.

On the 7th November, General Jackson having received information, that a large body of Indians, were in the vicinity of Coose River, immediately marched with 2,000 men to attack them, when the Indians were totally defeated, leaving 278 in killed and wounded. The loss of the Americans was 15 killed and 84 wounded.

In the beginning of November, General James Wilkinson received instruction from his government to proceed against Montreal. In his passage down the St. Lawrence he was frequently annoyed by a detachment of the enemy from Kingston, who hung on his rear, and partial engagements with the guards often occurred. On the 11th November, Brig. Gen. Boyd, commanding the rear division of the army, had orders to attack the enemy, and, if possible, to take his artillery. The action soon after commenced, and continued two hours and a half, when the enemy were forced back; but although they were unable to regain their ground, their stand was permanent, and their charge resolute. At length the firing having ceased on both sides, the American troops resumed their position on the bank of the river, and proceeded down without further annoyance. The force of the contending parties were nearly equal. The Americans lost in this engagement 103 killed, including

Brig. Gen. Covington, with 237 wounded. The enemy's loss was not ascertained.

On the 12th November Gen. White, with 800 militia and 300 Indians, proceeded from Fort Armstrong to attack the Hillabee towns on Tallapoosa River: On the 13th they were discovered in considerable force, when he succeeded in surrounding them undiscovered, and fired upon them; 65 were killed, and 251 made prisoners, with whom he returned to the fort without losing a man.

On the 29th November Brig. Gen. Floyd, with 950 Georgia militia and 3 or 400 friendly Indians marched to attack the Indian town of Autosse, inhabited by the Creeks. In this he was successful, having killed and wounded nearly 400 and burnt the town. The American loss was 11 killed, and 54 wounded.

December 19th. General Drummond, with 1,200 British and Indians crossed the Niagara, and succeeded in taking possession of the fort. The village of Buffalo was also burnt, in retaliation for the destruction of Newark; and when the Indians were expostulated with, they replied, "Remember Tippecanoe and the Creek Towns:" they said, "We have not yet forgotten Hull's proclamation." On the 27th Jan, 1814, General Floyd, at Camp Defiance, was attacked by a large body of hostile Indians. But succeeded in repelling them after a severe conflict in which he lost 18 killed and 123 wounded. The Indians left 37 killed, but took off nearly all their wounded.

On the 27th March, Gen. Jackson, with the troops under his command, proceeded to attack the Indian tribes on the Talapoosa, and after a severe engagement with 1,000, he succeeded in destroying their works, having killed 557, wounding many, and taken 250 prisoners—his loss at this time was 26 killed, and 106 wounded.

On the 6th May, an attack was made by the British under Gen. Drummond, on Fort Oswego, which terminated in the defeat of the Americans, who lost 6 killed, and had 38 wounded. The object of this expedition being accomplished, in the destruction of the fort, barracks, and public stores, the British embarked and returned to their squadron under Sir James Yeo.

On the 24th August, a British force, said to amount to 5 or 6,000 men arrived at Bladensburgh, on their way to the city of Washington. They were met by a comparatively small number of Americans, under Brig. Gen. Winder, who kept up a sharp fire for three quarters of an hour, in which the enemy suffered materially; but the immense disparity of force rendered it necessary to retire, having lost 30 or 40 in killed, and about 60 wounded with 120 prisoners. A detachment from the enemy under Gen. Ross, then advanced to the city of Washington. Here they proceeded to burn the public buildings, and met with no opposition. The CAPITOL, the President's house, Treasury and State Offices, the Navy yard, Barracks, frigate Essex and Argus sloop of war, the Arsenal, a

number of rope walks and dwelling-houses were destroyed.

On the 29th August, Alexandria, in consequence of the citizens having been ordered away, for the defence of other places, capitulated to a British force, which lay before the city, and were able to compel the inhabitants, to submit to whatever was required of them.

September 12th, the British landed 7 or 8,000 troops under Gen. Ross, about 14 miles below Baltimore, but were met by Gen. Stricker with the militia, amounting to 3,185, who maintained an unequal contest for one hour and a half, but were at length compelled to retreat. The British advanced to within five or six miles of the city, where they halted. Gen. Ross attempting to reconnoitre the situation of the force which he had reason to think was preparing to attack him, ventured too far for his personal safety; he was mortally wounded, by a lad, who had concealed himself until he had fair opportunity to take his object with a rifle. Gen. Ross soon after died of his wound. General Stricker had retired to his rear guard, which consisted of one regiment; he was there reinforced by a detachment under Gen. Winder—by militia, and volunteers of the neighborhood; and taking a stand within sight of the enemy, he was prepared for another engagement. He was not however disturbed. The British, after viewing him until the 14th thought it most prudent to retire to their shipping, which was

done under cover of the night. General Stricker's loss was 150 killed and wounded.

On the 17th September, Gen. Brown ordered a sortie from Fort Erie, with about 2,500 men, under the command of Gens. Ripley and Porter, and Col. Miller. All the enemy's batteries were taken, with about 400 men, their cannon destroyed, and 300 killed and wounded; our loss about 400 killed, taken and wounded; among the latter was General Ripley, severely in the neck. The next day the enemy precipitately retreated to Chippewa, after a siege of forty days. During the siege there were daily skirmishes with the enemy, in which many officers and men were lost on both sides; and among them the brave Major Morgan, who repulsed the enemy on the 5th of August.

On the 18th October, Gen. Bissell, with a brigade of Gen. Izard's army, was dispatched to an outpost occupied by the enemy, near the village of Chippewa. In this he succeeded; the enemy were brought to action, and defeated with the loss of 200 killed and wounded; the Americans lost 14 killed and 54 wounded.

THE
CURIOUS ADVENTURES
OF
CORPORAL *SAMUEL STUBBS*

Extract of a letter from Capt. DAVID COPP, commander of an infantry company of the 19th Reg. stationed at New Orleans, to his friend in Baltimore—dated “*New Orleans*, May 4, 1815.

“Altho there were a considerable number of the United States troops imbodyed, and prepared for the reception of the British, previous to the late serious engagement I am confident that they would not have been so easily put to flight had it not been for the assistance rendered us by the *volunteers* of this place and the adjacent country. From Kentucky, the “*Back Woodsmen*” (as they are termed) came in in hundreds, who patriotically volunteered their services on the occasion—among the number, there was one, who, for his very singular appearance—age—undaunted bravery displayed by him during the engagement, &c.—deserves peculiar notice.

This valient, though little *Man of the Woods*, bears the name of SAMUEL STUBBS, says he was born about 70 miles eastward of Boonsboro’ in Kentucky, where his wife and six children now reside, and that he has four brothers living in that State, all of as singular appearance as himself—he is in the 66th year of his age, about five feet in heighth, and in

every way formed and featured exactly similar to the small representation of his extraordinary person which I send you—should you, as you contemplate, publish a summary account of the engagements of the late war, I would advise you to have a correct copy taken and affixed to the work, which you may assure the public is a true representation of the original—I send you likewise enclosed, a copy of a letter which he a short time since wrote to one of his brothers, in which while he boasts considerably of his own personal valour, in a simple and undressed language, gives a very correct account of the most important engagements of the west, in which he appears to have taken an active part.—Pleased with the very odd appearance, and apparant fearless disposition of the old fellow, I selected him to perform the duty of a Corporal! and I am sure it would have afforded you great diversion to have seen how much the old veteran seemed pleased with his office—if any of the soldiers through inadvertency erred, they were sure at least to be brow beaten by the *Corporal!* — not even our brave Commander-in-Chief could have felt a greater degree of responsibility for the result of our late bloody engagement in this place—it is a fact to which I was an eye-witness, that STUBBS would have pursued the enemy to their very entrenchments, and probably plunged headlong in after them, had he not been ordered back by our Colonel!—so forward was he in an engagement to distinguish or expose himself,

that the British must have had several fair chances to pop him over, and how he escaped, I am unable to say, unless they either levelled too high for him, or conceived him from his odd appearance a kind of non-descript, at which they were unwilling to fire! He states that he was taken prisoner at the battle of Queenstown, when a British officer ludicrously proposed that he should be *caged* and sent as a present to the Prince Regent, as a "*non-descript animal of the American Forest!*"—But, we can assure his royal Highness, that had the whole American army been composed of such *animals* as CORPORAL STUBBS (although of Lillaputian stature) he would have had more defeats to record!—to conclude, the Corporal seemed conscious of his very odd appearance, and fearless of meeting with any thing more ugly than himself!

His letter I have copied verbatim, and from the humorous manner in which he describes the different engagements in which he took an active part, I think will be diverting to the public—by the stile and orthography of which, they will perceive that his education is not the best—accustomed to the chace, and like many of the Kentuckians possessing a knowledge of the Indian mode of scalping, he speaks of the enemy as animals, who, when destroyed, should be stripped of their fleece."

I am yours, &c.

DAVID COPP."

"*New Orlenes*, Jan. 30, 1815.

"Brother Ephram,

"I just write you to enform you that I'm still alive and in tolerable helth and choice spirits—altho as well as my brother *officers*, I have had some hair bredth escapes. Sposing that you would like to know something about my military life, since I quit home, I'll give you the whole story—when the express first came into our neighborhood, calling upon us all to turn out and march against the Canadians, I was, like another Putman, ploughing in my field—but I immediately unharnest the old draples, swung my napsack, shouldered my old gun that had killed me forty five deer the three months past, and marched away for head quarters. In four days time I joined the army with a dozen more of my neighbors near Queens-town—the brave Col. Van Rensselare, was our commander in chief, under whose command we the next day (which being the 13th day of October 1812) in boats crossed over to Canada—but ah, in the end it liked to have proved rather a bad job for us, for the opposite shore was lined with red coats as thick as bees upon a sugar maple—but after exchanging a few shots our brave Colonel bouzed in among them, while I and the rest followed close to his heels, and drove them all up a steep bank—we now got fair footing and stuck up the American colours in Canada!—we did not obtain this much however without some loss

on our part, and what was unfortunate for us all, our Colonel was severely wounded—but he was still able to keep upon his legs and with great courage ordered us to push forward and storm their fort, and that we did, and made them one and all scamper off into the woods.—But we were now in our turn unfortunate, for one half of our army was yet on the other side of the river, nor would the cowardly dogs come over to assist us when they saw the d—d red coats cutting us up like slain venson!—The enemy now doubled their numbers while every shot diminished ours, in truth they got the better of us, and again got possession of their batteries altho we let fly showers of ball and buck shot into their very teeth and eyes! Ah! the poor yankee lads, this was a sorry moment for ye! they dropped my brave companions like wild pigeons, while their balls whistled like a north west wind through a dry cane break!—our Commander ordered a retrete, but nature never formed any of our family you know for runners, so I waddled along as well as I could behind, but the red-coat villians overhauled me, and took me prisoner! but not until I had a fare shot at their head commander General Brock, who galloping his horse after my retreating comrads, bellowed out to 'um like a wounded buffalo to surrender, but I levelled my old fatheful bess, which never disappointed me in so fare a mark, and I heard no more of his croaking afterwards—of 1000 which crossed over but a few escaped biting the dust!—As for poor

me, I expected they'd kill and scalp me, but after staring at me as if I had been born with two heads, and enquiring of what nation I was, and from what part of the world I came, their Colonel ordered me liberated, who said to me "old daddy, your age and odd appearance induces me now to set you at liberty, return home to your family and think no more of invading us!"—This I promised him I would do, but I didn't mean so for I was determined I wouldn't give up the chase so, but at 'um again.

So I hastened off and joined General Deerbon's army, and on the 27th day of April we took Little York, which is the chief town of the Upper Province. We went in boats and the red coats peppered a good many of us before we reached the shore, but when we got footing they fled before us like an affrighted flock of red-winged boblinkons—we drove 'um from their battery, and then in a powerful body was pursuing 'um, when on a sudden, as if the whole earth was parting asunder and dischargeing from its bowels huge rocks and stones, a dredful exploshon took place from the maggazeen, which the arch dogs had fixed for the purpose! and a serious exploshon it proved for us, I tell ye, for it killed 100 of our men, including our brave commander General Pike. For my own part, I scaped with just my life as you may say, for a stone as big as your fist struck me on the head, and nocked off a piece of my scalp as broad as your hand! but faith this I didn't mind much, but waddled on

with the rest over dead bodies as thick as cowslops, and soon got possession of the town. The cowardly british chief, General Sheaff, had thought it best to scamper off with his Soldiers and Indians before we entered the town, so that I got but one fare shot at one of their copper-colour'd sanups, whose heels I soon made too light for his head, and would have scalped the dog but my captin would'nt allow it.

As all the work appeared now to be done in this quarter, I marched off and on the 20th June joined General Brown's army, which amounting to about 3000 brave *boys* of us, on the 3d day of July, crossed the Niagara. Gen. Scott commanded the first brigade, Gen. Ripley the second, Gen. Porter the militia, and Farmers Brother the Indians, who were painted as red as maple blossums.—Fort Eree surrendered to us that very day, and on the next we marched to Chippewa, driving the enemy before us like so many fire frightened antelopes!—On the 5th, the enemy's commander, General Riall, came out upon Chippewa plain, with 2200 regelers, while we militia boys and the Indians on both sides were engaged in the woods—for my own part I climed a sturdy oak, where I assure you I did not suffer old bess to grow cold, for whenever I saw an Indian creeping like an alle-gator upon his belly, I gave him the contents in full, and made him hug the ground to sum purpose—I'm sure I killed 15 of 'um in 15 minnits, and shood have been glad to have fleeced them, but the New England

men don't approve of scalping.—At this time our brave troops under Gen Scott, was hotly engaged with Gen. Riall's red coats, who after an hour's hard fighting, they turn'd tail to and run in all directions and saved their pork by gaining their works at Chipewewa, we killed about 500 of them, while our loss was 329 in killed wounded and prisoners, and thus ended this engagement.

On the 25th I agin marched with Gen. Scott, who advanced with his brigade, betwixt 8 and 900, about a mile on the Queenstown road, where we found the enemies, and engaged 'um about sunset. The enemies were guessed to be 4000 stout and were cummanded by Gen. Drummond—the tussel lasted till about leven a'clock, when, gad I bleve both parties were willing to quit the field. We took 20 pieces of artilary from 'um, one of 'um I took faith mysef alone with charg'd bagnet! The loss on both sides was about 900; the red coats commander, Gen. Riall, and about 20 officers were taken prisoners. Our Gen. Brown and Gen. Scott were wounded. The next day we return'd to Fort Eree, under cummand of Gen. Riplee.

August 15th, Gen. Drummund ordered an assalt upon our fort in three colums, consisting of the bestest men of his army, to the amount of 3000. There was but about 1500 of us, under Gen. Gaines who took cummand of us about the first of August. We repulsed the red coats with great loss—we killed, mangled and made prisnors of about 1500 of 'um—

they lay as thick as slartered mutton around. Ha, brother Ephe, a fine picing for skelpers! Our loss was 60 killed and wounded.

I continued with the American troops until they were about to go into winter quarters, when with the thanks of my General, like another Cincinnaty, I started for home, to exchange my rifle and baganut for the plougshare and pruning hook—but I did not get half way when I was summoned to repair to New Orlenés, where the red coats had landed and were threatening to over run the whole country! accordingly I right-about-face, and with quick step steered my course for New Orlenés, where by land and water tacks I arrived in 7 days—I found the whole place in alarm, they had had some skermishing with the red coats, but the desisive battle was yet to be fought, as you shall here—I joined capt. Copp's company, a nice man, who gladly receiv'd me, and in three days promoted me to the office of a CORPORAL! as I never held any office before you know, it made me feel kinder queer at first—but I soon learnt my duty, and the grate responsibility attached to my office.

On the morning of the 8th, before day-light, the enemy silently drew out a large force to storm our lines, where we were entrenched up to our chins, there was a great fog, and their columns advanced unperceived to within about half a mile of our camp, and drove in our piquet guard. About the break of day, they as bold as hungre wolves advanced to our en-

trenchments, led on by their foolish officers up to the very muzzles of our guns—I could have dropped them as easy as a flock of benumb'd wild turkeys, in a frosty morning, but I picked for those who had frog paws upon their shoulders, and the most lace upon their frocks—aye, the Corporal did his duty that day I'll warrant ye. Some of the foolish red coats penetrated into our lines, where they were soon baganuted or taken prisoners; many fell mounting the breast works; others upon the works themselves. The roar of artillery from our lines was incessant, while an unremitted rolling fire was kept up from our muskets—ah, *my men* performed wonders. For an hour and a quarter the enemy obstinately continued the assault; nor did they falter until almost all their officers had fallen. They then retreated, leaving from 1500 to 2000 in killed, mangled and prisoners—on our side the loss was confined to about 20 men—but I lost but one out of my company! So I remain yours, &c.

CORPORAL SAMUEL STUBBS."

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